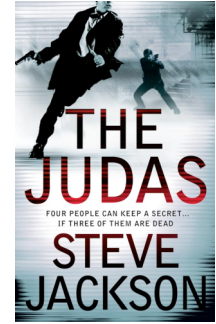


Steve Jackson

The Judas

3rd December 2007 □ £6.99 PB



A taut new thriller from the man who brought you 'The Mentor', Steve Jackson does for MI6 what Chris Ryan did for the SAS.

Four people can keep a secret if three of them are dead...

In Rome, the **severed hand** of a **retired MI6** head of station is found at one of the city's landmarks. The hand is holding a bag containing **thirty silver pieces**.

Meanwhile, in London, **MI6 agent Paul Aston** is on the point of quitting. Once on the MI6 fast track, his career has **stalled**. He has been passed over for one promotion too many; his colleagues treat him like a leper. When he is approached to head up a new task force, he jumps at the chance. His **first mission** is to investigate the **murder in Rome**.

When one of MI6's directors dies suddenly of 'a heart attack', Aston realises there is **more going on than meets the eye**. As he digs deeper he uncovers a conspiracy that dates back to the **dying days of the USSR**. Someone wants this kept secret. **Someone with everything to lose if the truth gets out**.

But who is THE JUDAS?

Exploding with heart-stopping action, 'The Judas' shows that Steve Jackson is the rising star of thriller fiction.

Praise for The Mentor:

'Fast paced and full of twists, this gripping book is for anyone who loves Spooks and James Bond' **Maxim**

'A jolly good thriller' **Guardian**

'Fast-paced and horrifyingly current...a chilling read full of double crossing and undercover trickery' **News of the World**

'Gripping and fast-paced' **The Sun**

About the Author:

On leaving school Steve Jackson fell into journalism, where filling in expense forms gave him a solid grounding in fiction writing. From there he meandered through numerous occupations – musician, recording engineer, university drop-out, guitar tutor, riding instructor – before turning his hand to thriller writing. Born in Scotland, he spent most of his childhood with his nose in a book in deepest, darkest Gloucestershire. He currently lives in St Albans.

Steve is available for interviews. For more information please contact Alice Moss on 020 8307 4662 or email alice.moss@harpercollins.co.uk. For all Irish media inquiries please contact Moira Reilly on 0404 61822 or email moiratreilly@eircom.net.